

Future

iPad User Magazine

PLUS!

Easy pro-level photo editing



iPad Pro

Can it replace a laptop? We go hands-on

Issue 23

HOW TO Customise Mail's gestures; manage PDFs with iBooks; and more!

Welcome

to iPad User Magazine, helping
you to do more with your iPad

The iPad Pro felt like it might never be released – there were so many rumours about it for so many years that we'd almost given up! But now we know all about the 12.9-inch tablet, we can see more and more that Apple really does see the iPad as the future of computing for a lot of people. Its huge Retina screen is capable of showing you two large apps side by side for real multitasking when working, and its processor is as powerful as some of Apple laptops, so it's capable of tasks such as 4K video editing. Every year, it becomes less and less necessary to use a laptop or desktop for work if you have an iPad, and the iPad Pro is a big leap forward. I'm wondering how many kids today will ever even bother with a mouse.

We've got our impressions from using the iPad Pro at Apple's hands-on event, and we've talked to real creative professionals to find out if it really meets their needs. On top of that, we've got lots of great guides to getting more from your current iPad, of course, and the latest accessory reviews. Enjoy!

MATT BOLTON EDITOR



@iPadUserMag

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THE ULTIMATE iPhone 6s HANDBOOK

180
PACKED PAGES

The *only* guide you need to get the best from your iPhone 6s



180

pages of iPhone
help and advice

- In-depth guides to iOS 9
- Tips for all Apple apps
- Secrets and shortcuts

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FREE
DIGITAL VERSION
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The iPad Pro is Apple's largest tablet so far – bigger than the company's MacBook laptop.

Hands-on with the new iPad Pro

We find out what Apple's big new creation – and its accessories – are really like to use

The iPad pro is the device we weren't sure we'd ever see, but at its event in September, Apple announced the 12.9-inch tablet for release in November starting at \$799 (with no UK price announced yet).

This is Apple taking on the enterprise market with its tablet range, but as with the MacBook Pro line, it's appealing to many other people than just the professionals its name suggests. The reason is simple: this thing has a massive screen with an impressive resolution and a bunch of fancy new tricks that, combined with iOS 9's abilities, offer a compelling experience.

The main thing you'll notice about it is that it's huge – really big in the hand. It's admittedly hefty at over 700g, but that allows it to pack in

a brilliant screen and four speakers while still reaching the 10 hours of battery life we've come to expect from iPads.

It's clear that Split View in iOS 9 was conceived for the iPad Pro, because there's just so much that you can do with that screen real estate. Many apps will still just want to be run in fullscreen mode, and that's great for creative pro apps – but being able to get documents side by side for comparison, or refer to a website while writing an email, really does make it great for almost any kind of work.

The Apple Pencil is an interesting addition; when we saw Adobe laying out magazine pages on the stage with the little aluminium stylus, we immediately saw its huge potential.

It's very good at sketching, not to mention the

best we've tried when it comes to handwriting recognition, refusing to be confused by our fist rubbing the screen at the same time – but at \$99 (again, a UK price hasn't been announced yet) it's an expensive add-on. Still, the ability to shade, annotate and more is really impressive, and the reaction from the iPad Pro is instant.

The Smart Keyboard is another device that we've been waiting to see from Apple for years now, and it's also a nice addition. While it's (very) expensive at \$169, the keys allow for great accuracy, despite being rubber-clad. It's very similar to the new MacBook's keyboard, where the travel doesn't feel traditional but still works really well.

The iPad Pro takes the same stylings that endeared us to the iPad Air and uses them to

The Pencil is typical Apple simplicity and stark aluminium design – and great to use.



create something that sits between the world of business and the world of sitting on your couch messing about with your tablet. Still, it's its pro capacity that will be scrutinized hardest – Microsoft's Surface 3 was really well received, so Apple will be hoping that a MacBook-esque tablet can shine as well. A lot will obviously depend on how people view its capabilities compared to its cost, but given the clever software tweaks and accessories Apple has added, there's a lot to be intrigued by.

It's almost a shame that this tablet probably won't match the sales of the iPhone, as it means developers might not rush to develop the software; while Tim Cook was quick to point out

the alliance with IBM and Cisco when launching the new iPad Pro, some developers of pro Mac software aren't confident about making money from the iOS App Store – and without a wide-ranging selection of capable software, a pro machine isn't all that pro.

But this is great for play as well as work – we can see this being the perfect device with which to leaf through the newspaper or some comics on a lazy Sunday afternoon, or a great replacement for those that spend hours in bed watching Netflix on a laptop. And it's not even all that expensive for a pro-level machine, which isn't something we get to say all that often about a new Apple product.

iPAD PRO THE FACTS

Cost \$799 (32GB),
\$949 (128GB),
\$1079 (128GB+Cellular)

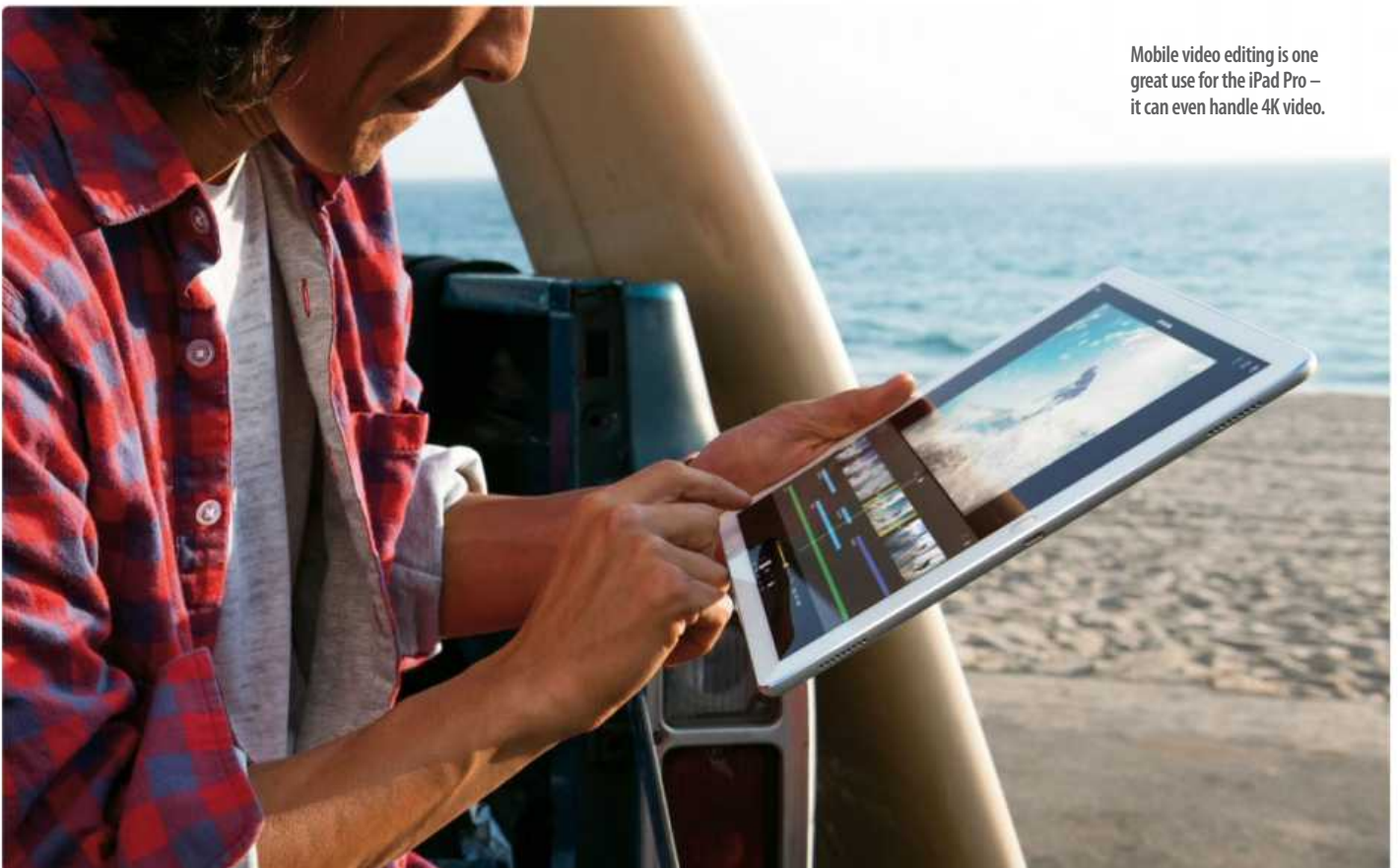
Screen 12.9 in, 2732x2,48

Processor Apple A9X

Battery life 10 hours'
web surfing/video

Connectivity Wi-Fi, Bluetooth,
Lightning port, Smart Connector,
3.5mm headphone jack

Features TouchID, stereo speakers,
8MP rear camera, 1.2MP front camera



Mobile video editing is one great use for the iPad Pro – it can even handle 4K video.



What the pros think of...

iPad Pro

It's Apple's biggest ever iPad, but has the Pro won over the creative professionals that it's aimed at?



In the months-long run up to Apple's 9 September 'Hey Siri' event, there was one rumour that just would not die a quiet and dignified death: that Apple was working on a gargantuan 12.9-inch tablet christened the 'iPad Pro', designed for creative pros and replete with stylus, the bane of one Steve Jobs. "If you see a stylus, they blew it", he famously quipped. Apple must have a short memory.

The option of a pressure-sensitive stylus – or Pencil, as Apple has imaginatively named it – suggests the Pro is aimed squarely at illustrators, artists and designers – those for whom a trackpad or mouse are just not accurate enough. But what do those who work in these professions think of the large-sized tablet? Will it become a must-have tool for the busy creative, or a rare stumble from a company that is not accustomed to making mistakes? And furthermore, should creative types really consider getting one?

To get to the bottom of the issue once and for all, we asked a group of creative professionals to find out exactly what they thought of what Tim Cook called "the clearest expression of our vision of the future of personal computing".

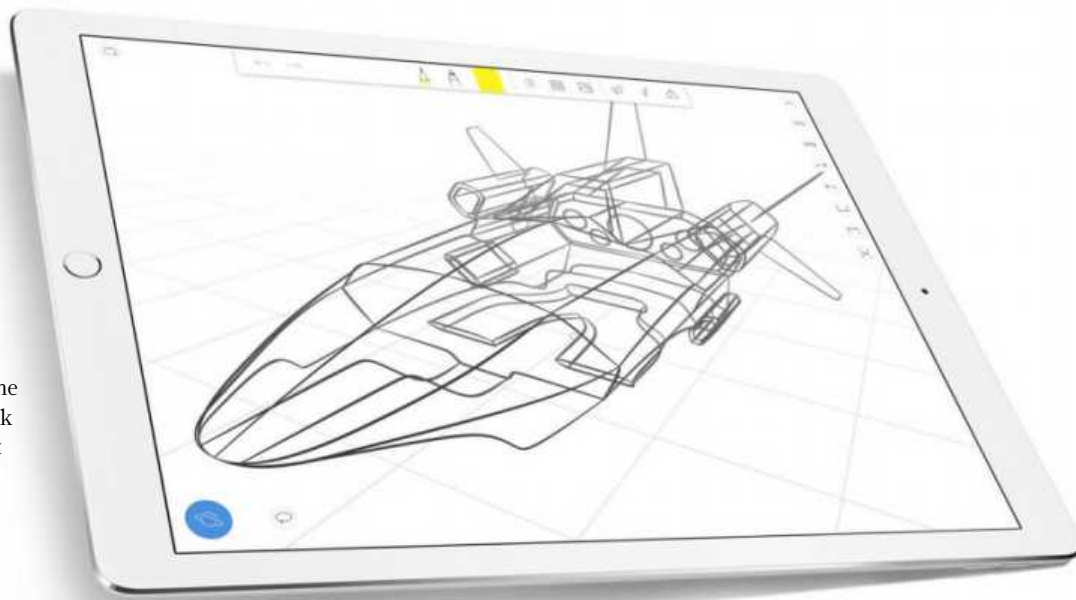
The iPad Pro was the worst-kept Apple secret since every other product Cupertino ever launched. We all knew it was coming, but that didn't stop us getting excited for its 12.9 inches of pressure-sensitive, Retina-flaunting, power-packing glory.

That's all well and good, but outside of the Apple event bubble, what do creatives think of it? For Adam Dewhirst, Senior 3D Artist at The Mill, it's all about the portability. "I think its screen resolution coupled with its weight and portability are its most appealing aspects", he says. "It's the right size for digital art and it's incredibly easy to just grab and go for a device that size. By comparison, the Wacom Cintiq Companion is over double the weight and much bulkier".

Freelance digital artist Nikolai Lockertsen agrees, but goes further, citing the addition of a stylus as being a key selling point for the new device: "The big screen with such high res will be fantastic to work on. A sensitive stylus that is created with and for iPad Pro should work flawlessly."

"Something every artist wants"

That is one of the most interesting reactions to the iPad Pro among creatives – every artist and designer we spoke to agreed that Apple was right to finally reverse its long-standing opposition to digital drawing implements. Rob Redman, CG artist at Pariah Studios, was typical of this response, arguing that it is about Apple responding and adapting to a world it has had huge influence over for so long. "There is nothing wrong with sticking to your guns to an extent", he says, "but the world is a fluid,



changeable place and the market will dictate what users want. Jobs was pretty good at predicting and even shaping things but there is definitely room for a stylus input".

"It's something that's been lacking from Apple products", adds Dewhirst. "If anything I think I'm more interested in the Pencil than I am the iPad Pro itself".

Lockertsen puts it another way. "If you ask a painter if he [would] rather use a painting brush to work with or a finger, any artist wants to use a stylus", he argues. "We grow up with crayons and pencils. Painting with a finger works, but it is not natural for us. And pressure sensitivity is something every artist wants".

Steve Jobs may not have been a fan of the stylus, but he was speaking of technology that was nowhere near its potential being used on fledgling smartphones a tiny proportion of the size of an iPad Pro. The Apple Pencil will be used in a totally different context by a totally different user base – a user base that seems to be very keen on the idea.

A must-have accessory?

The question posed by the iPad Pro's emergence is simple: should artists get one? Is it an essential professional tool or an unnecessary gizmo?

Well, that very much seems to depend on what line of work you're in. For Lockertsen, the answer is obvious. "I work full time as a concept artist in the film

If you mainly work on iPad already, you may find that the iPad Pro is well suited to your needs.

industry and I only use the iPad to paint on and Procreate as the app", he explains. "For me, this is Christmas and birthday in one". But as an artist who works almost exclusively on an iPad, Lockertsen's experience may not reflect that of others in the industry, and for Dewhirst the answer is not so straightforward. "It's a tough question", he says. "I may get one, but let's be honest – it's not the same price as the current iPad, which I have bought on a whim before.

"A sensitive stylus that is created with and for iPad Pro should work flawlessly"

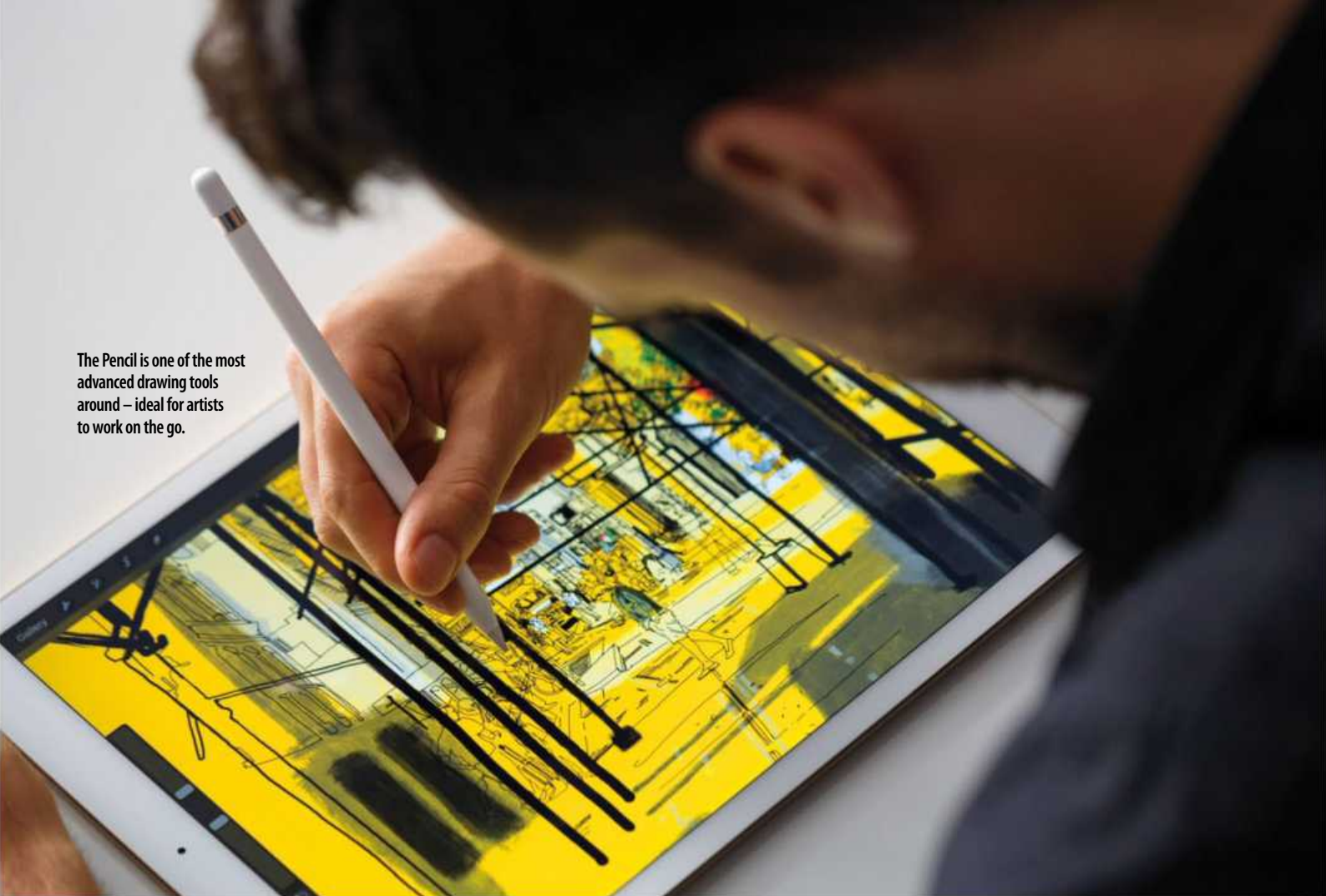
It's a real investment, especially if you want the Pencil and the keyboard too – and let's face it, you do!"

The pros we spoke to were also split over whether it could replace their Mac in a work capacity – again, it largely hinged on what type of work they were involved in. For Lockertsen, the freelance illustrator, the answer is a firm yes: "The iPad has for me already replaced a desktop computer in 80% of what I do. The rest of the 20% I do [is] mostly film editing. The iPad Pro is supposed to handle film editing very well, so I could probably convert fully to iPad Pro."

For our 3D artists, however, there was no possibility they could make the switch, even with the iPad Pro's extra power. "Absolutely not", says Dewhirst. "Don't get me wrong, there are some 3D modelling and sculpting apps out there, but they would only help me [go] so far, and to be honest, it's still a fair distance



There's no need to pair the Smart Keyboard with the iPad Pro – just attach it and you're ready to start typing!



The Pencil is one of the most advanced drawing tools around – ideal for artists to work on the go.

away from what I need to be doing.”

Redman agrees, arguing that the iPad Pro just isn't ready to replace his desktop computer yet. “The iPad for me is a tool for travelling with”, he says. “I can't see a time when my 3D work will go mobile but for sketching [and] blocking out storyboards, it could be perfect”.

iOS or Windows?

Justifying the price tag remains a key hurdle for Apple. While the iPad Pro comes cheaper than many of Wacom's Cintiq tablets, it also lacks the flexibility of its rival's products. Cintiq supports Windows, which allows it to run fully-fledged graphics software like Adobe Photoshop. The iPad Pro, in contrast, runs iOS and is therefore limited to the apps that are available on that platform. That in itself is enough to put many people off.

For all Apple's talk of the iPad Pro being a device for artists and creatives, iOS is the elephant in the room. That precludes the use of apps like Photoshop and ZBrush – key tools for artists in their droves. For Dewhirst, that's a deal-breaker: “It's a nice tool for remote working to a small degree... but could I do the same level of work I would normally do in the office? No”.

“The trouble is more to do with software than anything else. I just can't do what I need with the current range of apps compared to the range of ability of something like

Autodesk Maya”, he adds. What could fix this issue? In Dewhirst's opinion, shipping it with OS X; without that, it's not a viable option for him: “Ultimately, if I'm looking for a mobile tablet device and I have a choice between this and, say, the Surface or the Cintiq, I'm not going to pick the iPad. It can't compete because it's not able to – simple as”.

That isn't an issue for Redman because he doesn't envisage using an iPad Pro for heavy duty work: “I'm not really interested in taking a full Windows machine round with me. I'd feel too much like I was in the studio and need to do heavy lifting work. [It] kind of defeats the point of [the iPad] for me.”

“I like the fact that iOS devices are lightweight, in both OS as well as hardware”, he reasons. While the iPad Pro could potentially compete with the Surface Pro, Microsoft's tablet is a “different beast”, according to Redman.

Slated for success

As Apple's global stature grows to ever more dizzying heights, the company is finding it increasingly difficult to keep its new products and projects tightly under wraps. Few were surprised by the iPad Pro's announcement. But perhaps we shouldn't have been anyway – Apple has appealed to creative professionals for so long that it was surely a matter of time until

it dipped its gold-encrusted toes into the fertile springs of the graphics tablet market.

But for all its creative street cred, perhaps even Apple can't count on the iPad Pro's inevitable success. Our artists offered mixed support for the supersized slate – while there was much support for the effort, for some the device just isn't an essential tool. There was a sense among them that the iPad Pro is still a work in progress, something for the storyboard rather than the showreel.

So should you get one? If you're creating work on the fly and use an iPad already for much of your creative output, then yes. But if our artists left you less than convinced, it may be best to wait for further developments – and see what Apple surprises us with next.



The new A9X processor has enough grunt for the iPad Pro to handle just about anything you throw at it.

When to use iCloud.com

Find out how to recover deleted files, set up email rules and much more

SKILL LEVEL

Could be tricky

IT WILL TAKE

30 minutes

YOU'LL NEED

A Mac or PC, an internet connection, an iCloud account



Over the years, it's been pretty clear that Apple loves the web. However, it doesn't want you to live in a web browser – and this is a distinction that's quite important. An exception of sorts is icloud.com. This website is Apple's browser-based app suite, the majority of which mirrors apps on your iPad. This means that wherever you have access to a Mac or PC with a compatible web browser (<http://apple.co/1K7jWdz>) a Mac or PC, you can also use web-based versions of Mail, Contacts, Calendar, Photos, Notes, Reminders, and Apple's trio of office apps (Pages, Numbers and Keynote). There are also three additional utilities on

offer: iCloud Drive, Find My iPhone and Settings.

Although we wouldn't especially recommend using the site regularly (that is, over the native apps), we'd say it has two specific purposes. First, it's a handy emergency place for performing tasks: checking email from a desktop if your iPad's out of power, or finding a device if it goes missing. Secondly, it has a number of useful settings and configuration options that aren't accessible on your iPad, and some of these are the subject of our walkthroughs. Note that you can access the site from your iPad, but the options you have are limited, so we've assumed you have access to a Mac or PC for these walkthroughs.



HOW TO | RECOVER DELETED DOCUMENTS

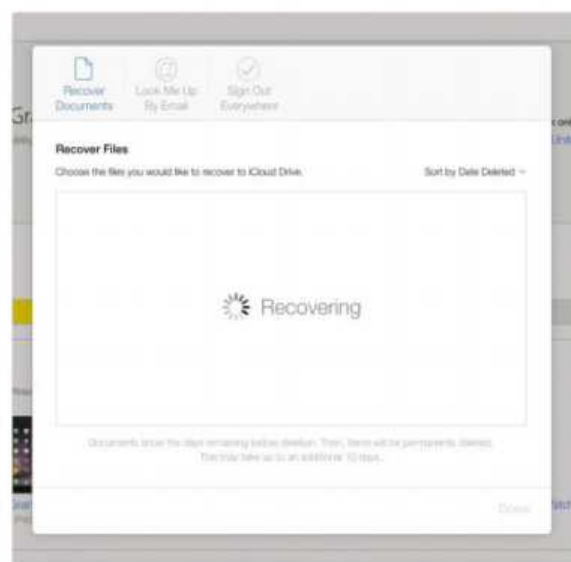
TOOL SCHOOL

If you've left yourself signed into icloud.com on a computer you no longer have access to, sign in elsewhere and click Settings > Data & Security then Sign Out Everywhere. Click Sign out of all browsers, to confirm your choice.



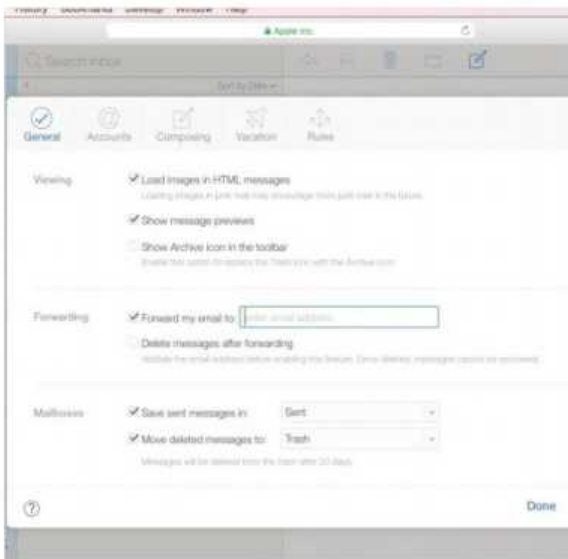
1 Find recoverable documents

One of the most frustrating things about using any device is when you accidentally delete a file you didn't mean to. If that happens to a file you have stored on iCloud Drive, icloud.com makes it easy to get it back. To find it, log in, select Settings and click Data & Security. Click Recover Documents and sort your files by date or name.

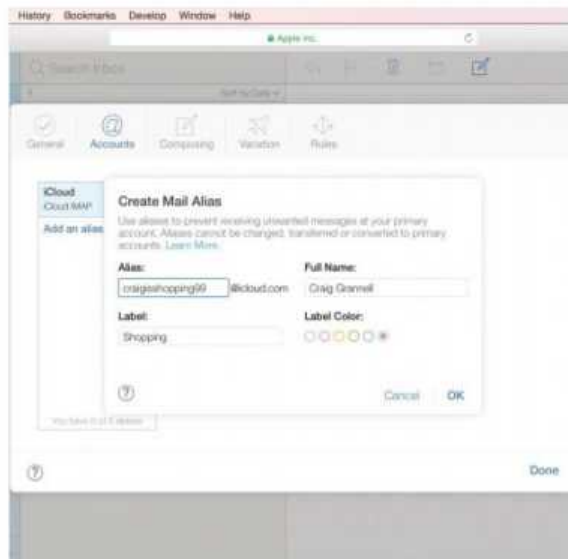


2 Get back deleted files

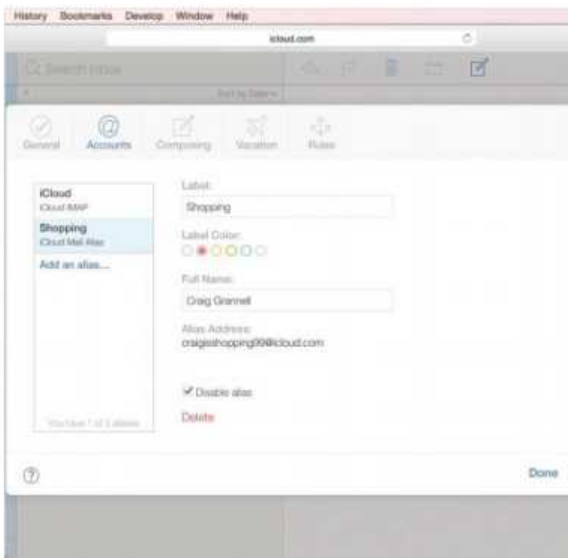
If it's a file you just deleted, date is the best option. Items are sorted oldest to newest, so scroll to the bottom of the list. Choose the item you'd like to recover by clicking its checkbox, then select Recover File. To see if it has worked, head to the iCloud Drive app on icloud.com, and look inside the folder where the file was previously stored.

HOW TO | POWER UP MAIL AT iCloud.COM**1 Forward emails**

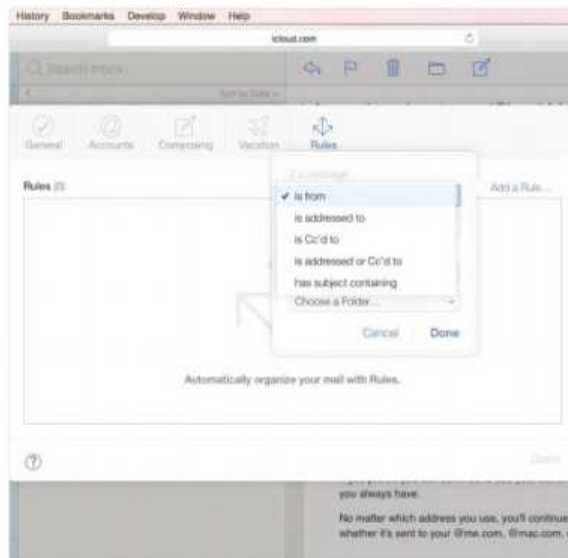
Open Mail in iCloud.com and click the cog icon at the bottom-left corner. Select Preferences from the pop-up menu to see your options. In Forwarding, click the first checkbox and enter an email address. This will forward emails sent to your iCloud.com email to wherever you specify. You can delete forwarded messages by ticking the second checkbox.

**2 Create email aliases**

Aliases are secondary email addresses that shield your main iCloud.com account from spam. You can use an alias for online shopping and other web activities, and it can be disabled when you don't need it. In Accounts, click 'Add an alias', add your alias, and, optionally, a label and label colour. Click OK. If the alias is not available, pick one that is.

**3 Manage email aliases**

In the Accounts section of Mail's preferences, aliases are listed in the left sidebar. You can have up to three aliases at once. To manage one, select it; you can then update the label and label colour, and the associated name. If the alias isn't in use, you can disable it by ticking its checkbox. If you decide you no longer want it at all, click Delete to remove it.

**4 Create server-side rules**

In the Rules section of Mail's preferences, you can define rules to automatically organise your email. Click 'Add a Rule', and use the pop-up menu to select a condition and action; click Done to confirm. In the Rules list, the 'i' button enables you to update or delete the rule. If you're going away, click the Vacation tab instead and set an auto-reply.

**USE THE
DESKTOP
SITE ON
iPAD**

It is sort-of possible to use the desktop iCloud.com site on iPad. Tap the address field and then pull the shortcuts sheet down.

Now tap 'Request Desktop Site'. The site will reload with the layout you see on a Mac or PC. Note, though, that some aspects of it won't work well or at all.

**JARGON
BUSTER**

Lost your device or had it stolen? As long as it had Find My iPhone running you'll be able to check its whereabouts on iCloud.com.

Open Find My iPhone and click All Devices. If the device is online, click it to zoom to its location.

Wake up with an alarm

After a little late-night reading, use your iPad to rouse you from slumber...

SKILL LEVEL

Anyone can do it

IT WILL TAKE

10 minutes

YOU'LL NEED

iPad, iOS 9



The Clock app is capable of doing much more than just telling you the time – after all, you can see that at the top of the screen in most places in iOS. The app also has stopwatch and timer functions, but it's the alarm clock feature we're going to talk about.

Like an old-school alarm clock, the app can wake you with a blaring klaxon,

yet it also lets you wake to far more soothing sounds if you prefer to start the day with a little less of a fright. New tones can be bought from the iTunes Store (which you can then use as sounds for other iPad features, such as FaceTime), or you can use any of the songs you've downloaded to the Music app, or synced from iTunes on your computer. However, songs will play from

their beginning; to choose a specific segment of a song, import it into GarageBand to trim and export the range you want to hear.

When an alarm sounds, you can get nine extra minutes of rest by tapping the screen or using the iPad's physical volume controls to snooze it. And you can use Siri to check, set and even delete alarms.

VISUAL GUIDE | THE CLOCK APP

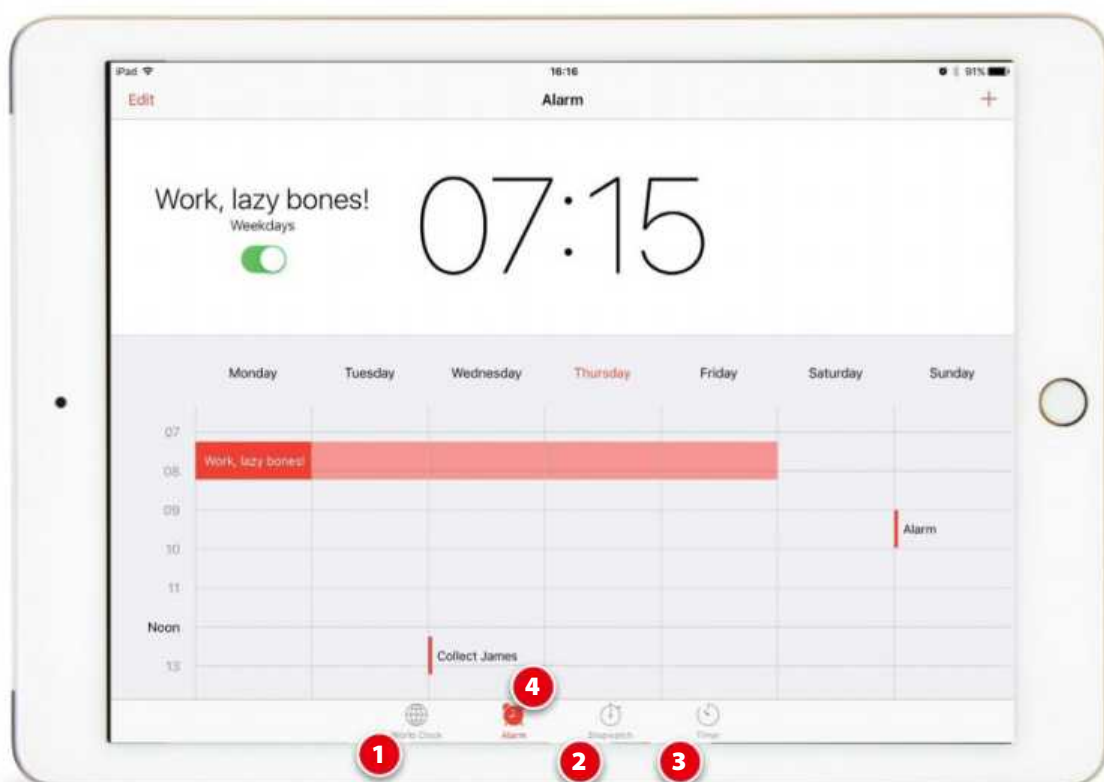
Take a whirlwind tour of the four major features of the iPad's Clock app

World Clock

1 This shows the time, temperature and weather conditions at major cities of your choice. Tap one of the slots marked with a + at the top of the screen, then type into the search bar or scroll through the list to find the location you want to see on the map. When all of the visible slots are filled, swipe leftwards on their row to bring another six into view.

Stopwatch

2 This will be indispensable if you are responsible for a sports team or are helping out a friend with their training. Tap Start to begin counting, and then tap Lap at the appropriate time to record each circuit to the log (the stopwatch will keep counting), or tap Stop when you're finished. Sadly, the Clock app provides no way to export your lap times; you can take a screenshot by holding the Home button and quickly pressing the sleep/wake button. The screen will flash to confirm, and the screenshot will be added to the Photos app. However, if you're doing serious training, you should investigate the Health & Fitness category in the App Store.



Timer

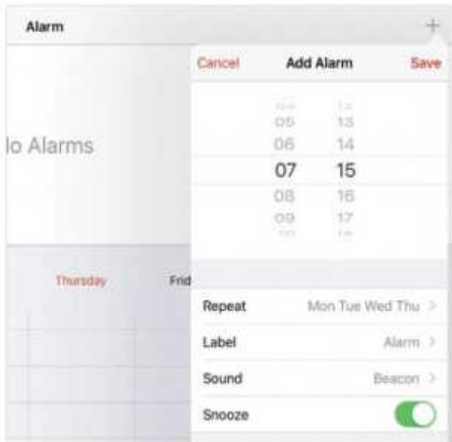
3 Dial in how long you want the app to count down, in hours and minutes, and tell it what sound you want it to play at the end. Like the Alarm feature, you can ask Siri to set a timer; the "Hey Siri" shortcut (Settings > General > Siri) is particularly useful if your hands are busy in the kitchen.

Alarm

4 Tap this to see your alarms on a week-long view, similar to how events can be shown in the Calendar app. Each alarm shows its label, but if several occur in a short space of time, you'll only see the label of the latest one in that group; the earlier alarms around that time will be

reduced to tall, thin bars. You can't just tap on the view to set an alarm, but you can tap and drag existing alarms up or down to adjust their time – they'll snap to zero, 15, 30 or 45 minutes past the hour, unless you first drag your finger left or right off the alarm – after which dragging vertically moves the alarm in five-minute intervals.

HOW TO | SET AND MANAGE YOUR ALARMS



1 Set an alarm

Tap Alarm at the bottom of the screen, and then the + at the top-right corner. This opens a form in which you set up your alarm: its time, how often it repeats, a label ('Alarm' by default, though customisable), which sound or song will be played, and whether the snooze option is even available. Dial in a time, then tap Repeat to choose the days of the week on which the alarm will be active. When you have at least one alarm turned on, a tiny alarm clock icon near the right of the status bar will remind you.



2 Snooze options

The Snooze switch is turned on by default for new alarms. If you leave it on, you'll be able to mute an alarm by tapping a small piece of text on the iPad's Lock screen, or by pressing one of the volume controls. The alarm will trigger again nine minutes later. With Snooze disabled, you'll need to swipe on the screen to dismiss the alarm. You can work around the inability to customise the snooze duration by setting a second alarm to give yourself the extra amount of time in bed that suits you.



3 Switch off alarms

Tap Save and your alarm will appear on the week-long view; although setting labels is optional, it's a good idea to change them if you have many alarms, to help you remember their purpose. Tap an alarm (it'll be highlighted in red) and you'll see its exact time at the top of the screen. Note the adjacent switch, which sets whether the selected alarm is active; you can use it to, say, temporarily turn off your morning alarm when you're on holiday – but remember to come back and turn it on later.



4 Review alarms in a list

Tap Edit at the top-left to see all of your alarms in a list, ordered chronologically by time of day, but not necessarily by day of the week (because some might occur on multiple days). Active alarms have a white background, inactive ones are grey. Tapping an inactive alarm and then Save turns it on. You can tweak any of the settings you chose in step 1 here. Also note that when creating or editing an alarm, you can set it to a precise minute, not just the five- or 15-minute intervals available on the week view.



5 Mute/Do Not Disturb

The Mute switch in Control Centre (on iPad Air 2/iPad mini 4; it's a physical switch on iPads that are older) silences the sounds from notifications, alerts and effects such as the keyboard clicking, but it doesn't silence purposeful sound, such as music, videos and, of course, your alarms. Likewise, alarms are an exception to the range of sounds that are silenced when you turn on Do Not Disturb in Control Centre, so you can safely shut out intrusions with the assurance you'll be woken.



6 Control alarms with Siri

You can ask Siri to set alarms with phrases like "Set an alarm for 7" and "Wake me tomorrow at 8". Ask it to show your alarms and it will display all of them (or a summary, if there are many), or you can ask for those in morning, afternoon or evening. It can change your alarms, too ("Change my 8am alarm to 7"). If you have few alarms and don't mind recreating them after a holiday, say "Delete all alarms". Remember, you can say "Hey Siri" to instruct your iPad as long as it is connected to an external power source.

Customise iOS Mail gestures

Change the gestures used by iOS Mail to help organise emails in a hurry

SKILL LEVEL

Anyone can do it

IT WILL TAKE

15 minutes

YOU'LL NEED

iOS 8



Mail on iOS has been hugely improved over the last few years, and now includes a number of features that make it easier to manage the daily barrage of emails. One of the most useful is the ability to use gestures – a simple finger swipe either left or right across an email in the list of them for options to quickly delete it, mark it as

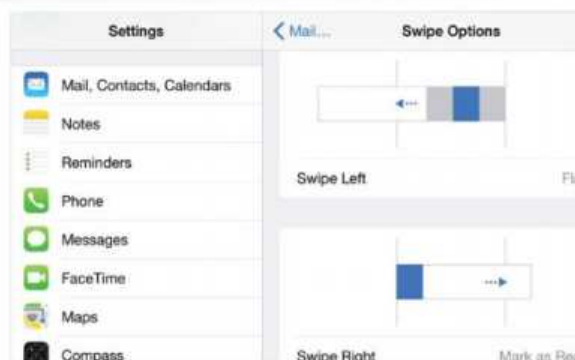
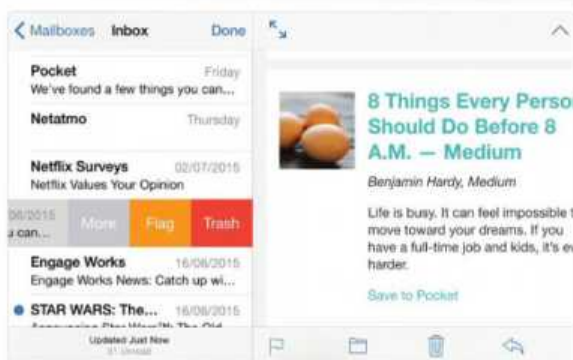
read or unread, or to perform a number of other tasks without even having to open or read the message.

Those two basic gestures work well for triaging new messages, and you have the ability to customise the actions they perform. (It's no surprise that Microsoft's excellent iOS version of Outlook includes similar gestures.) Your options are fairly limited, but you can do

things like switch around the actions (which is handy if you're left-handed), or archive emails rather than simply delete them.

These customisation options are rather limited, but if you dig a little deeper into Mail's settings you can make changes that will help you to organise your emails in the way that suits you best.

HOW TO | CUSTOMISE GESTURES IN iOS MAIL



MENU OPTIONS



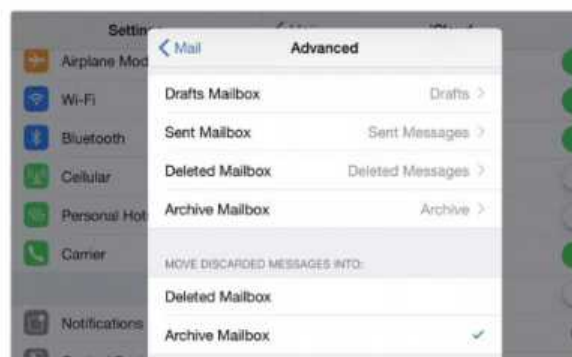
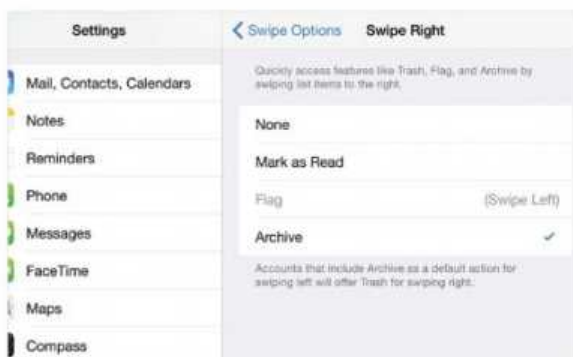
The More item that's listed when you swipe slowly left on a message includes useful options. You can forward the message or stick it in the Junk folder. There's also a Notify Me option, which will display a notification whenever someone replies to that email thread.

1 Left and right swipes

You can swipe left to right across a message to mark it as read or unread. Swiping from right to left works slightly differently. A long swipe to the left immediately deletes the email, but by swiping a little more slowly you'll see additional options, such as the ability to flag the email for reading later.

2 Swipe away

You can change the way the gestures work in the Settings app > Mail, Contacts, Calendars > Swipe Options. The diagrams here show the currently assigned actions. Only the actions in the positions shown in blue are changeable. They are set to 'Flag' and 'Mark as Read' by default.



3 Customising gestures

Your options are fairly limited. If you tap on Swipe Right, you can change it to either flag the email or file it in the Archive mailbox. If you're left-handed you might want to change the Swipe Left gesture to 'Mark as Read' so that the default actions are now reversed. But we're not finished yet.

4 Mail Behaviours

In Settings > Mail, Contacts, Calendars, tap your iCloud account at the top, then Mail under the Advanced heading. Scroll down and tap Advanced to control which mailboxes are used. You could specify that discarding an email (a left swipe) puts it in the Archive mailbox rather than Deleted.



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Anyone can do it

IT WILL TAKE

10 minutes

YOU'LL NEED

iPad, iOS 8 or later,
iBooks



Apple's iBooks app used to be a free download from the App Store, but it now comes baked into iOS as standard, which means that it comes pre-installed on every new iPad. Open it and tap Featured on the bottom menu to start filling your virtual bookshelves.

There are over 1.5 million ebooks available in the iBooks Store, and many are free, particularly older ones and out-of-print classics. There's everything from interactive text books and children's books to the latest bestsellers and biographies, and much more. It works much like the iTunes Store: you can browse the categories, go straight to the charts, or carry out a search. Many books have reviews from other readers, and in some cases you can download a sample to dip into before splashing out.

When you've found a book you want, tap its price to purchase it, or the adjacent Sample button to read a few

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Take the time to customise iBooks: you can change the font or text size, the brightness and even the 'paper' colour. Books you buy on your iPad are also available on your other devices, and you can set your iPad to automatically download purchases you make on

those devices by going to Settings > iTunes & App Store. In Settings > iBooks, you can also choose to sync bookmarks and how your books are arranged.

Other formats

Note, however, that ebooks are not all the same. Multi-touch Books (aka Interactive iBooks) will work only on an iPad. The iBooks app will also open PDFs as well as ebooks you get from the iBooks Store, and also many ebooks from other sources – but not all, because some come in different formats.

Don't worry, though: if you've got or want to get ebooks from other sources, just search the App Store for the appropriate reader app and install it in addition to iBooks. Waterstones.com

recommends a free app called OverDrive to handle the digital rights-protected ePub ebooks that it sells.

Unlike iBooks, though, other ebook apps such as Kindle, Kobo and Nook don't have integrated stores on the iPad, so you'll need to visit the store in question



HOW TO | FIND, MANAGE AND READ EBOOKS WITH iBOOKS



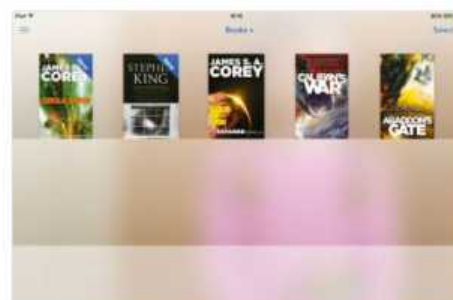
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2 Find and buy

Other items in the bottom bar enable you to see the current charts (paid and free are listed separately), view top authors (ditto), or search by typing into the bar at the top-right corner. Tap the item you're interested in, then tap the price button to buy it or Sample to try it. It will download and appear in your library.



3 Organise your library

Tap My Books to return to your library. New and unread purchases have a blue New flash. Hold on a cover and drag to rearrange books – however, you can't do this while you're in the All Books view (top-centre). It only works in collections, which are the way you organise your library in iBooks, rather than using folders.



4 Switch collections

To create a new collection, tap All Books at the top of the screen, followed by New Collection. After you've given it a name, tap in the same place at the top of the screen to switch between collections. To organise books into collections, tap Select, then some book covers, then Move in the top-left corner.



5 Search

Once you have a fair number of books, finding the one you want might become a little tricky, not least because you can view only one Collection at a time. Thankfully, you can search for titles from all your Collections – swipe downwards on the view of your books to reveal the search bar. Tap on it and start typing a title.



6 Change view

The list-like icon at the top-left on the My Books screen switches between cover art and a list view. In the latter, you can sort your books by title, author or category, as well as view them in the order in which they were added to your library. The Select button remains available in this view for you to organise things.



7 Reading options

From any view, tap a book to open it. Tap the AA icon (top-right) to change the font, text size, brightness or paper colour – Night inverts things to white-on-black, which may be more comfortable for night-time reading. You can even change how you navigate, from viewing pages individually to scrolling continuously.



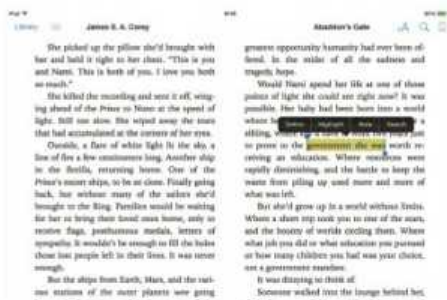
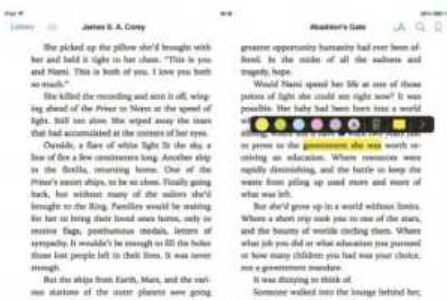
8 Navigate

While reading a book, tap the list-like icon near the top-left corner of the screen to get a quick view of the current book's table of contents, plus any bookmarks you've made or notes you've added. Simply tap on any of the entries to jump to that point in the book, or tap Resume to return to the page you were reading.



9 Bookmark and Search

Tap the icon next to the magnifying glass (top-right) to bookmark the current page; tap again if you want to remove it. You can add as many bookmarks as you like. To search the book's text, tap the magnifying glass and type, then tap one of the excerpts that shows the contexts in which your words were found.



10 Highlight and note

You can also mark specific passages: tap and hold or drag your finger over a section of text, then drag to select what you want. It will be highlighted in yellow; tap that range of text to change its highlight colour or underline it, remove the highlight, add a note, or to share the passage in a message or on a social network.

11 More options

Tapping the right-pointing arrow in the pop-up from the previous step reveals yet more options: you can copy the highlighted passage, get a definition of a word, add a note, search for the same text in the rest of the book (see step 9), or open a link; this last option appears only if there is a web address in the selected text.



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Get creative with your pictures using this excellent and affordable app

SKILL LEVEL

Anyone can do it

IT WILL TAKE

30 minutes

YOU'LL NEED

iPad, Pixelmator



The Photos app on your iPad provides a handful of useful editing tools, enabling you to make basic tweaks to your images. You can crop and rotate an image, apply a selection of preset filters, dial in brightness and saturation... and that's about it. If you want to get creative with your imagery, Pixelmator (£3.99) is an

ideal next step. This fast, easy-to-use and affordable image editor provides a raft of tools, including brushes and layers, text and shapes, retouching, distortion and more. It's great for taking your photos to another level – or even creating an image from scratch.

The app is simple to use, with all the tools accessible from a few menus. It plays nicely with the Photos app,

loading images directly from your Photo Library, and you can even link it to the Photos app through its extension, enabling you to make basic edits there, and then take your photo directly into Pixelmator. This workflow limits you to using Pixelmator's Effects menu, although you still have plenty of creative freedom. Tapping Done sends you back into your iPad's Photos app.

VISUAL GUIDE | FINDING YOUR WAY ROUND PIXELMATOR

Pixelmator has a clean look that's right at home on iOS, making it easy to use

Icons

1 The paintbrush icon brings up the main Tools palette with access to the app's creative tools. The + icon enables you to add images, layers, text and shapes. The cogwheel brings up the app settings and also includes image setup. The share icon lets you save and share your images.

The Tools menu

2 This is the main access point to Pixelmator's toolset, which features brush-based tools, colour adjustments, a variety of effects, plus tools for creating selections and cropping. Format provides additional control over individual layers.

The layers palette

3 Pixelmator comes with a fully-formed layer system, which enables you to duplicate images, overlay effects and add text and shapes. Tapping a layer also brings up a menu for additional control over opacity (how transparent or not a layer is). Plus blend modes and context-sensitive options such as stroke, drop shadow, reflection and so on.



Add Effect presets

4 Tapping the Add Effects menu brings up a palette of 14 different options, including Blur, Sharpen, Hue & Saturation, Light Leak, Bokeh, Focus and Kaleidoscope, all with their own controls. The Add Effects menu also offers a small, live preview of your image with each effect applied, so you can see what your image will look like before you set about making changes.

Images

5 Tap here to close the current image and go to Pixelmator's Image Gallery. This enables you choose a new image to work on: this can be from scratch, from iCloud Drive or from the Photos app. You can also use Images to open an existing project (images are saved with layer information intact) and use Images to rename or delete existing files.

Undo

6 Pixelmator has a whopping 50 levels of undo available, enabling you to experiment freely, knowing that you can always backtrack through your work if you need to. Of course, with the layer system it's always wise to save a copy of your image as a standby just in case you do happen to run out of undos – although that's only likely to happen with very complex images.

HOW TO | LOADING, USING LAYERS AND ADDING EFFECTS**1 Load an image**

Time to fire up Pixelmator and load an image. There are a variety of ways of getting digital photos onto your iPad: You can load them from your camera via USB and an adapter. You can also sync or share them using iTunes, iCloud Photo Library, iCloud Drive and even Dropbox. We also suggest Files App (<http://getfilesapp.com>), which is useful for sharing files between iOS and OS X. In Files App simply use 'Open in...' and choose Pixelmator.

**2 Image setup**

We've chosen a macro shot of some flowers – it's an OK image but lacks interest. You have the option of using Image Setup to define the size in pixels, or you can tap once on the image to bring up handles to manually resize it and pan around the canvas. To rotate, just place two fingers on either side and move them in opposite directions. Once you have the image set up as you'd like, zoom in and out and pan around with finger-pinches and by dragging.

**3 Duplicating a layer**

Even though Pixelmator has an undo feature, it's useful to make a duplicate layer to work with. Tap anywhere on the image and hit Duplicate. Now if you swipe in from the left, you'll see the layers. The new layer has been created and sits on top of the original with a blue outline. To reorder layers, tap and hold, then drag them to their new position. To cut, copy, delete or hide a layer, tap to highlight it, then tap again to bring up the layer menu.

**4 Retouching the image**

Let's bring out the blue flowers and darken the green stem. Tap the paintbrush icon to bring up the Tools menu, hit Retouch and select Darken. This brings up a brush with which to paint over specific areas. To adjust the size and strength, tap on the numeric values (top-right); this brings up a menu showing the brush stroke. Always start with low strength values until you get a feel for what the tool does. Next we'll do the same thing, but using the Saturate brush to make the blue petals more vivid.

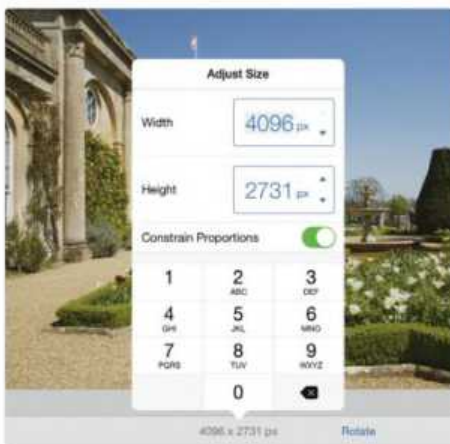
**5 Adding effects**

Hit the + symbol (top-right), and in the second tab, select the dark rectangle to add a solid black layer. In the layers panel, tap it, select 'Style' from the menu and change the Blending from Normal to Screen. Now we can see the flowers again. Open the Tools menu and tap Add Effects; this brings up a menu of 14 options for adding blur, bokeh and more. We're going to use the Bokeh menu to add a sparkly, ethereal vibe. Use the two black handles to position, rotate and scale the Bokeh image to your liking.

**6 Using Blending modes**

Hit Done to apply the effect, then tap the black layer which has the Bokeh image. In the menu, tap Style and adjust the Opacity to around 50%. You can also play around with the Blending modes – Color Dodge also gives a nice effect in this instance. To finish the image, we added another Bokeh layer, called Magnolia, then reduced the opacity and added a Blur effect. This brings up a small wheel, which you dial up or down the amount of blur. We then added a Hue & Saturation effect.

HOW TO | CREATING A VINTAGE PHOTOGRAPH



1 Changing image size

We've copied a 4096x2731-pixel photo using Dropbox, and our first step is to make it more manageable. To alter the size, tap the cogwheel to bring up the Settings panel, then hit Image Setup. At first it doesn't do anything: you need to tap the text saying 4096x2731 – this opens the Adjust Size panel. Here you can key in any size you need, and constrain its proportions if need be. We're going to reduce it by half. Once you're happy, tap anywhere off the panel to close it, then hit Apply.



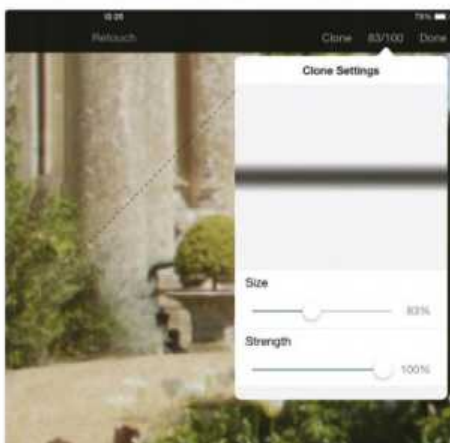
2 Cropping the image

For our vintage-look image, we need to make some changes. There are people dressed in contemporary clothing on the right and a guy by the pillar. Let's get rid of them. First of all, it's easier to just crop the family from the edge of the image; to do this tap the Paintbrush icon and select Crop. You can drag the crop window around or adjust it using the handles in each corner, or by dragging on an edge. You can keep the original aspect ratio or choose a different one using the Aspect Ratio options at the bottom.



3 Using the retouch tool

Now to deal with the guy in the red top using Pixelmator's intelligent retouching tool. Tap the paintbrush icon to open the Tools panel and select Retouch. To start, we'll try using the Repair tool. Like the other brush tools you can adjust the size by tapping the numerical values. We'll zoom in on the image, and use a fine brush to paint over the figure. It's a good idea to cover the figure in one go. However, we did one main paint stroke, then some smaller ones to remove any bits we'd missed. Tap Done to close the tool.



4 Cloning in details

The Repair tool has done a pretty good job, but we can improve it by cloning in any missing detail. Open the tools palette again, open the Retouch options then select the Clone tool. Place the black marker at the end of the 'rope' where you want to copy from, then simply paint where you want to copy to. Here we've duplicated a few bushes to tidy up the area by the pillar. We also cloned out the entrance sign and painted in some new gravel. We even manage to remove some of the people by the fountain with the Repair tool.



5 Colour correction

Now let's make the photo look aged. You can give it the popular 1970s Polaroid look by going into the Tool palette, and tapping on Adjust Colors; the Sepia preset does a pretty good job on its own. But we want a look that's even older. First we'll add the Warm preset and then decrease the Saturation level slightly, and increase the Contrast. Hit Apply, then go into Add Effects and use the Hue & Saturation to give the photo a faded brown-purple tone. To control individual colour channels, tap the colour dots at the bottom and Hit Apply.

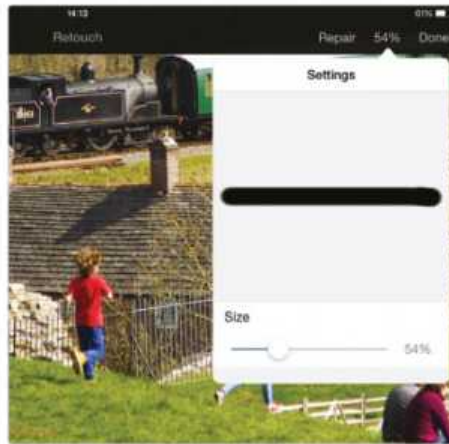


6 Add the final touches

Staying in the Effects menu, we then apply a Vignette effect with a value of 150%. Next we'll add a new solid black layer set to Screen mode. This is so we can apply Light Leak effects and some speckles, and tone down their colour and saturation separately. Now we'll add the 'Blurry' frame template. To use it, we had to save our vintage picture to back to Photos. In Pixelmator's gallery, hit the + icon (top-left), and from the Create Image menu select the frame you want. Tap the + icon (bottom-right), and import your edited image into the frame.

HOWTO | CREATING A TILT-SHIFT EFFECT**1 Adjusting the colour**

First, we'll load our train photo. The scene was shot on a bright sunny day, but it's a little flat for our purposes, so open the Tools panel and select Adjust Colors. We want the image to be vivid and 'hyper-real', so let's increase the Contrast and Saturation by 20% each. Then move the Temperature slider by 10% to warm things up a bit and tweak the curves to brighten the midtones. Tap Apply. If you're not confident with colour channels, the Vibrant preset in Adjust Colors will do much the same thing.

**2 Object removal**

For our tilt-shift photo, let's tidy things up a bit by removing the kids running down the bank – these will look too much like real people and will distract the eye from the train. In the Tools palette, select Retouch and then the Repair icon. Using a smallish brush, paint over each figure, making sure to completely cover them. Pixelmator does a good job in removing them from the scene – fortunately, these areas will be blurred in the final image, so there's no real need to use the Clone tool to tidy up.

**3 Replacing the sky**

Our sky is a bit boring, so we found a nice replacement and added it as a layer beneath the steam train. We then used the Tools > Select > Magic Wand to select our original sky. The region gradually turns grey as you move your finger, so you can gauge how much to select. It's then easy to pick an Erase brush and paint out the sky. To check your progress, Hide the layer beneath to see the alpha channel. Now to work on both layers as one, tap and hold the sky and drag it on to the train layer to group them.

**4 Add the tilt-shift effect**

For the tilt-shift effect, go into the Tools palette and select Add Effects > Miniaturize. There are two black handles: the large one shows the 'focal point', while the smaller one determines the extent of the effect. We want a narrow depth of field, so let's put the focal point on the train, keep the handles close together and crank it up to 100%. To make even the effect more extreme, we apply the effect again. You could also duplicate the layer and apply the effect to the uppermost version – then dial back the opacity if it's too much.

**5 Vignetting and noise**

Our image is nearly complete. In Tools > Add Effects, we'll throw on a Vignette set at 70%, which helps sell the tilt-shift effect and draws the eye to the centre. Next we'll add some Noise set at 10%, just to add a little grain and tie the whole image together. Finally, we'll add another solid black layer, and apply a Light Leak (the one titled Pavo). With the layer set to Color Burn and 20% opacity, it adds a bit of richness and texture to the image. If you choose to apply the effect as a separate layer you can easily tweak and change it to your heart's content.

**6 Adding shapes and text**

Finally, let's add some text and a graphic. Pixelmator has a selection of shapes and text, added via the + icon (top-right). You drag the item into position and then scale it with the handles; text is edited by tapping on the text box. You can make further refinements by selecting the item in the layer palette, and tapping Styles. This shows a menu with options for colour, outlines, drop shadows, and so on. Your finished image can be shared via Messages, Mail and iCloud; opened in another app, saved to iCloud Drive or Photos.

GEAR

Our round-up of the hottest products out now for your iPad



Apple iPad Mini 4



£319 Apple, apple.com

We panned the iPad mini 3 last year for being a weak upgrade to the Retina iPad mini 2 – you Touch ID, and that was it. Apple has corrected the line-up now, giving us the mini we wanted back then, but at a time that's actually more suitable now, as it turns out.

Why? It's all to do with iOS 9. Having the iPad Air 2 as the only iOS device capable of using the new system's Split View mode (it'll be joined by the iPad Pro as you read this) was a real shame. The mini is hugely popular and Split View is a killer option for serious work (or play). The new mini has similar guts to the iPad Air 2 and shows off iOS 9 in all its glory, though using Split View does feel quite small on its display.

In minor generational upgrades, Apple doesn't usually mess with dimensions too much, apart from making devices thinner. But here the 18% reduction in depth (to 0.25in) has come along with adding a tenth of an inch to the height, due to rearranged internals. This means old cases are generally a no-go if you want to upgrade from a mini 2 or 3. You really don't notice that extra length, but you do notice the thinness – it's as ridiculously thin and light as Apple claims in its advertising spiel. This is the throw-in-a-bag iPad you've always wanted. Elsewhere, the external changes are minor but there's no Mute/Lock switch; these are now software-controlled via Control Centre – just like the iPad Air 2.

The mini 4's new internals include the A8 and M8 processors found in the iPhone 6 and 6 Plus. The Air 2 has the A8X of course, so this mini is not exactly on par with its bigger sibling for overall performance, which was evident in our synthetic tests. Using the GeekBench app, we clocked the mini 4 at an average of 3,046 on the multi-core test, narrowly beating the iPhone 6 but still a bit behind the iPad Air 2's A8X. In the real world, it's plenty fast enough, though, and handles multitasking and more difficult tasks easily.

The iPad mini is back back back, and it's no longer the poor sibling of the 9.7-inch model. A good upgrade, especially with the arrival of iOS 9.

Christian Hall

B&O BeoPlay H2

★★★★★

£169 Bang & Olufsen, beoplay.com

The BeoPlay H2 headphones give off an undeniably cool vibe, but like most good-looking things, this comes at a high price... The headband is cushioned near the apex with a soft, silicone air pocket. The right ear pad is free of ports or features, but on the left you'll find the input for the included 3.5mm cable. Flipped over, each pad is covered in luscious lambskin for added comfort. The only added extra is the cable, which features a play/pause button, volume rocker and microphone. The B&O H2 present your music on a surprisingly decent-sized soundstage, offering warmth and balance, the sound is superbly rich. Even the bass is impressively deep, and just as powerful as it needs to be. **Cameron Faulkner**



Ministry of Sound Audio M-Plus

★★★★★

£200 Ministry of Sound, ministryofsound.com

The M-Plus stands just 7.5 inches high, but pumps out a firm and full bass sound ; the mid-range and high frequencies are nicely detailed, too. It's also pretty loud! This M-Plus model costs £200 and provides Wi-Fi connectivity as well as the ability to group multiple speakers. It also has a rechargeable battery. The iOS app is a bit rough around the edges. It took us a couple of attempts to sort out the Wi-Fi connection, and when using that you have to play music through the Ministry app, which means you can't stream playlists you've created in Apple's Music app. **Cliff Joseph**

Netgear Arlo

★★★★★

£280 (two cameras), £360 (three cameras) Netgear, netgear.com

The Arlo home security system has one key advantage over rivals – the cameras are wireless, but this comes at a cost. There's little in the way of instruction, but a leaflet directs you online for a start guide. We'd recommend doing this before using the iOS app to set things up. You can also set up online. The process auto detects your base station (connected to your router using Ethernet), but assumes you've plugged in the cables already. The motion-sensor cameras have night vision (up to eight meters) and a 130-degree field of vision. They're weatherproof, and the wireless range is cited as 90 meters. The magnetic mounts allow for various angles and are also waterproof. Two spare mounts mean you can move the cameras depending on whether you're away, say, and you can screw a mount to a wall with the provided mounting screws. The cameras can also be used on flat surfaces without a mount. Each takes four batteries (which are included). Video quality is excellent, and the cameras automatically adapt for exposure/color balance and switch to night mode in low light. You can opt to receive notifications and emails depending on movement in front of the camera, and adjust detection sensitivity. **Dan Grabham**



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